

91st Congress, 2d Session

House Document No. 439

CONSTITUTION
JEFFERSON'S MANUAL
AND
RULES OF THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

OF THE UNITED STATES
NINETY-SECOND CONGRESS

By
LEWIS DESCHLER, J.D., M.P.L., LL.D.
PARLIAMENTARIAN



Rule XI.

RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Rule XI.

§ 735.

This clause was adopted December 8, 1931 (VIII, 2208), amended January 3, 1953, p. 24, and revised by the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1970 (84 Stat. 1140); H. Res. 5, January 22, 1971, p. —. This latter revision also added the requirement of open committee meetings in paragraph (f) of this clause.

A committee scheduled to meet on stated days, when convened on such day with a quorum present may proceed to the transaction of business regardless of the absence of the chairman (VIII, 2213, 2214).

A committee meeting being adjourned by the chairman for lack of a quorum, a majority of the members of the committee may not, without the consent of the chairman, call a meeting of the committee on the same day (VIII, 2213).

27. (a) The Rules of the House are the rules of its

§ 735. Rules of
Committee
Procedure.

committees and subcommittees so far as applicable, except that a motion to recess from day to day is a motion of high privilege in committees and subcommittees. Committees shall adopt written rules not inconsistent with the Rules of the House and those rules shall be binding on each subcommittee of that committee. Each subcommittee of a committee is a part of that committee and is subject to the authority and direction of that committee.

This paragraph was adopted December 8, 1931 (VIII, 2215), amended March 23, 1955, pp. 3569, 3585, and January 22, 1971, p. —, when the House incorporated provisions of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1970 (84 Stat. 1140) in the rules (H. Res. 5).

A committee may adopt rules under which it will exercise its functions (I, 707; III, 1841, 1842; VIII, 2214) and may appoint subcommittees (VI, 532), which should include majority and minority representation (IV, 4551), and confer on them powers delegated to the committee itself (VI, 532); but express authority has also been given subcommittees by the House (III, 1754-1759, 1801, 2409, 2504, 2508, 2517; IV, 4548).

(b) Each committee shall keep a complete record of all committee action. Such record shall include a record of the votes on any question on which a

RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Rule XI.

§ 735.

record vote is demanded. The result of each rollcall vote in any meeting of any committee shall be made available by that committee for inspection by the public at reasonable times in the offices of that committee. Information so available for public inspection shall include a description of the amendment, motion, order, or other proposition and the name of each Member voting for and each Member voting against such amendment, motion, order, or proposition, and whether by proxy or in person, and the names of those Members present but not voting. With respect to each record vote by any committee on each motion to report any bill or resolution of a public character, the total number of votes cast for, and the total number of votes cast against, the reporting of such bill or resolution shall be included in the committee report.

The first part of this paragraph was derived from Sec. 133(b) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (60 Stat. 812) and made part of the standing rules on January 3, 1953, p. 24. The requirements that committee roll calls be subject to public inspection and that the committee report on a public bill or resolution include the vote thereon, were added by Sec. 104(b) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1970 (84 Stat. 1140) and made a part of the rules on January 22, 1971, p. —, H. Res. 5.

(c) All committee hearings, records, data, charts, and files shall be kept separate and distinct from the congressional office records of the Member serving as chairman of the committee; and such records shall be the property of the House and all Members of the House shall have access to such records. Each com-

Rule XI.

mittee
testimon
by the

This pro
Act of 19
January 3

(d)(1)
commit
to the E
and to
bring th

(2) I
a measu
shall be
of days
the day
of the
majorit
reportin
such r
transmi
mittee
paragra
mittee
rules, o
reportin
the hea

(3) H
matter
Rules)

Rule XI.

RULES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

§ 735.

Rule XI.

mittee is authorized to have printed and bound testimony and other data presented at hearings held by the committee.

This provision from Sec. 202 (d) of the Legislative Reorganization Act of 1946 (60 Stat. 812) was made a part of the standing rules January 3, 1953, p. 24.

(d)(1) It shall be the duty of the chairman of each committee to report or cause to be reported promptly to the House any measure approved by his committee and to take or cause to be taken necessary steps to bring the matter to a vote.

(2) In any event, the report of any committee on a measure which has been approved by the committee shall be filed within seven calendar days (exclusive of days on which the House is not in session) after the day on which there has been filed with the clerk of the committee a written request, signed by a majority of the members of the committee, for the reporting of that measure. Upon the filing of any such request, the clerk of the committee shall transmit immediately to the chairman of the committee notice of the filing of that request. This subparagraph does not apply to a report of the Committee on Rules with respect to the rules, joint rules, or order of business of the House or to the reporting of a resolution of inquiry addressed to the head of an executive department.

(3) If, at the time of approval of any measure or matter by any committee (except the Committee on Rules) any member of the committee, gives notice of